

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Staiger, U.S. Patent No. 3,619,478.

The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Applicants' invention is directed to a reusable pin support fixture. The fixture includes an upper apertured foil and a lower apertured foil. The fixture also includes means for maintaining the foils in a spaced apart relationship wherein the apertures of the foils are in registration. A plurality of pins having a support end and a base end wherein the base end is secured to the lower foil and the support end passes through an aperture end and the upper foil. The pins are removably secured in the lower foil.

Staiger'478 is directed to an electrical connecting element. The aperture design of the Staiger'478 invention "locks" the pins permanently to the fixture. They are not removable or replaceable as in the Applicants' current invention and thus the fixture is not reusable in such a way as the Applicants' invention is reusable. It is important that the pins are removable and replaceable such that they can be placed in different locations each time the support fixture is used and thus makes the fixture more efficient and practical.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the amended claims and the claims dependent there from are in proper form. The Applicants respectfully contend that Staiger, U.S. Patent No. 3,619,478, does not anticipate the claimed invention under the provisions of or 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Thus, claims 1, 2, 5-9 are considered to be patently distinguishable over the prior art of record.

The application is now considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early indication of same is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arlene J. Powers', is written over a horizontal line.

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